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Thank you for this opportunity to submit public comments regarding an FCC proceeding. This is my first time doing so. I urge the Commission to reject petition 04-160 submitted by the National Association of Broadcasters. After becoming increasingly frustrated and perturbed with the poor and commercial-laden product that the NAB's members are forcing upon the citizenry via free, public spectrum, I invested in early-2003 in an equipment purchase and subscription to XM Satellite Radio. The quality and breadth of programming extant on their service is such that I subsequently have rarely, if ever, listened to broadcast radio. I do NOT miss it. XM's new local traffic and weather service for Washington and Baltimore is a great convenience to me and is much better than that offered on local broadcast outlets. (e.g., WTOP provides it only once every 10 minutes in DC and the breadth of their service cannot compare.) XM is a service that I am gladly paying for, and it was my choice to do so. The member broadcasters of the NAB give me no such choice witness the homogenized pablum designed by "consultants" that now passes for "programming".

The traffic and weather programming at issue facilitates the safe and efficient movement of surface traffic and, as a consequence, should be considered a public safety service. It is not local entertainment and it is not local news. If the NAB are successful in forcing XM to terminate this programming, I will simply do without. I was not going back before this problem arose and I will definitely not go back if they are successful in this petition.